

ROWLEY REGIS
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,
STAFFORDSHIRE.

ANNUAL REPORT

For Year 1913,

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ON THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT.

INCLUDING REPORTS FROM THE

SURVEYOR

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

OLD HILL :
COUNTY HERALD OFFICE.

1914.

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ROWLEY REGIS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,
STAFFORDSHIRE.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ending December 31st, 1913.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1913, which contains the statistics of Births, Deaths, Birth-rates, Rates of General and Infantile Mortality relating to your district; also the Infectious Disease Notifications received, together with a review of the work of the Health Department for the past year.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The Urban District of Rowley Regis is situated in the extreme south-west of the County of Staffordshire, and is bounded on all sides except the north, by Worcestershire. It is chiefly a manufacturing and colliery district, with a small area of agricultural land and a few granite quarries in the higher parts. The altitude ranges from 346 feet above sea level in Cradley Heath to 893 feet in Rowley Regis Ward, and the whole of the area forms part of the South Staffordshire Coalfield. Many of the old mines have been re-opened; consequently subsidences are of frequent occurrence, causing much damage to property, sewers and highways.

The population of the district at the Census of 1911 was 37,000, and calculating from this basis with the "factor" supplied by the Registrar General, I estimate the population to

the middle of 1913 to be 37,558, and this has been verified by Dr. Reid, the County Medical Officer of Health.

The average number of persons per acre in each Ward is as follows :—

Tividale	...	...	...	...	3.17
Rowley Regis	...	...	...	...	4.18
Blackheath	...	...	...	...	36.12
Old Hill	...	...	...	...	19.66
Cradley Heath	...	...	...	...	18.57

It will therefore be seen the population is not evenly distributed, and the congestion occurs in the three latter wards, owing to the situation of the greatest number of manufactories and collieries.

The geological formations in the more elevated portions of the district are loam, clay and granite, and in the lower wards principally clay and roche (part water-logged).

Female labour is largely employed in most of the manufactories, especially in connection with the chain-making industry, which naturally must have some deleterious influence upon the home life of the people, and consequently react upon the rising generation.

**Table showing Particulars of Population and Housing Accommodation
in each Ward.**

WARDS	Area in Acres	Inhabited Houses in each Ward	Void Houses in each Ward	Number of Houses Condemned but not Demolished	Total Number of Houses in each Ward	Number of New Houses built during 1913	Population.	
							Census 1911	Estimated middle of 1913
Tividale	...	653	12	2	665	1	3076	3118
Rowley Regis	...	1176	9	5	1185	6	5544	5626
Black Heath	...	1441	4	9	1445	3	6679	6791
Old Hill	...	2428	5	3	2433	29	11,600	11,774
Cradley Heath	...	2130	8	1	2138	16	10,101	10,249
TOTALS	...	7828	38	20	7866	55	37,000	37,558

POOR LAW RELIEF.

The total of Poor Law Relief paid to out-door paupers during the year ending March 31st, 1913, amounted to £1,745 17s. 8d.

HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL RELIEF.

There is no Hospital or Public Dispensary in the district other than the Council's Isolation Hospital at Tividale, but a number of such institutions in Birmingham, West Bromwich, and Dudley are supported to some extent by contributions from this parish. The South Staffordshire Joint Small-pox Hospital has been converted into a Sanatorium (temporarily) for the reception of insured tubercular patients. In the absence of local facilities, persons requiring hospital treatment avail themselves of the opportunities thus afforded by these outside institutions.

Average Number of Persons per House.

WARDS	Estimated Population	Number of Inhabited Houses	Average Number of Persons per House
Tividale -	3118	653	4.77
Rowley Regis -	5626	1176	4.78
Black Heath -	6791	1441	4.71
Old Hill -	11,774	2428	4.85
Cradley Heath -	10,249	2130	4.81

Estimated population of the whole district—37,558.

Total number of inhabited houses—7,828.

Average number of persons per house—4.8.

Area of whole district—3,670 acres.

Average number of persons per acre on estimated population—10.22.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

WATER SUPPLY.

Generally speaking, the water supply of this district is obtained from the South Staffordshire Water Works, although a few houses are still dependant upon well water. One hundred and five additional houses have been connected with the South Staffordshire Water Works Co.'s mains during the past year, bringing the total number of houses now supplied with tap water to 7,716.

One sample of well water was taken for analysis and found to be contaminated and unfit for use. The well was therefore closed, and the houses are now supplied from the water mains.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The River Stour and Mouse Sweet Brook form the dividing line between Staffordshire and Worcestershire. They receive very little pollution, although occasionally waste acid and enamel water contamination is complained of; reports of which are sent to the County Council for further investigation under the Rivers Pollution Prevention Acts.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The sewage from this district is treated on the broad irrigation principle at the outfall works of the Upper Stour Valley Main Sewerage Board, which are situated at Whittington, near Stourbridge.

Twenty-three new houses were connected to the sewers during the past year, and three old houses upon notice from the Sanitary Inspector; thus bringing the total number of houses now connected to seven thousand, two hundred and fifty-six.

A scheme for the sewerage of Tibbett's Gardens area, in the Cradley Heath ward, was completed during the past year; thereby making it possible for an additional sixty to seventy

houses being adequately drained. I hope the whole of this work will be carried out in course of the current year to perfect the system.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Two hundred and eighty-five conversions from the conservancy to the water carriage system were made during the past year, and eleven additional water closets were also provided.

The objectionable privy midden is slowly but surely becoming a thing of the past, and the sooner they are all removed the better for the general health of the district, as they are a constant source of soil contamination and danger.

I herewith give a tabulated statement showing the progress made in conversions to the water-carriage system during the past five years :—

Table showing the Rate of Progress made in substituting the Water Carriage for the Conservancy System during the past five years.

Years.	Number of Water Closets	Number of Ashpits not connected with Closets	Number of Movable Ashbins	No. of Privy Closets	Number of Ashpits connected with Closets	Number of Conversions made annually
1909	3659	1635	756	2668	2189	346
1910	4064	1762	977	2334	1986	334
1911	4432	1967	1214	2011	1597	390
1912	4909	2293	1308	1636	1273	320
1913	5220	2477	1391	1347	1060	285

The number and type of sanitary conveniences now in the district are shown in the following table :—

Wards	Number of Water Closets	Number of Ashpits not connected with Closets	Number of Ashbins	Number of Privy Closets	No. of Ashpits connected with Closets
Tividale -	430	217	102	82	74
Rowley Regis -	619	263	150	341	266
Black Heath -	963	471	245	161	135
Old Hill -	1677	829	477	468	369
Cradley Heath -	1531	697	417	285	216
TOTAL .	5220	2477	1391	1337	1060

SCAVENGING.

The Sanitary Inspector and his assistant supervise the work of refuse removal, which is carried out under contract. The house refuse after collection is deposited on “ tips ” as remote as possible from the centres of population. It is an objectionable method, but the only one available under present circumstances, as there is no destructor.

Ashpits are still very prevalent, but it is desirable from a public health, as well as an economic point of view, that they should be replaced by movable sanitary dust-bins.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF DISTRICT.

The appended report of the Sanitary Inspector includes a classified statement of the number of inspections and visits made during the past year, and the following tabulated account shows the defects found and the result of action taken.

One hundred and eighty-four insanitary conditions were carried forward from 1912, and a further 1,220 were reported during the year under review. Eleven hundred and fifty-six of these cases were satisfactorily dealt with, leaving two hundred and forty-eight still upon the registers.

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL. (Table V.)

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE in the Nuisance Inspector's Department during the year 1913, in the Urban District of Rowley Regis.

		NUMBER OF		ABATEMENT NOTICES		NUISANCES ABATED AFTER NOTICE BY	
		Inspections & Observations made	Defects found	Informal by Inspector	Formal by Authority	Inspector	Authority
Dwelling-houses and Schools	Foul Conditions ..	702	472	472	2 8	234	109
	Structural Defects ..	366	366	366	209	143	113
	Overcrowding ..	29	29	29	11	18	6
	Unfit for Habitation..	40	40	40	35	0	35
	Lodging-houses ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Dairies & Milkshops } Cowsheds	130	32	32	0	32	0
	Bakehouses ..	80	4	4	1	3	0
	Slaughter-houses ...	637	0	0	0	0	0
	Canal Boats ..	94	18	18	0	16	0
	Ashpits and Privies .	3478	264	264	133	102	87
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure	23	23	23	2	19	2
	Water Closets *	340	124	124	31	93	22
House Drainage	Defective Traps ...	3	3	3	2	1	1
	No Disconnection	2	2	2	0	2	0
	Other Faults *	299	299	299	14	283	12
	Water Supply ..	3	3	3	1	2	1
	Pigsties ..	1	1	1	0	1	0
	Animals improperly kept	23	23	23	9	13	8
	Offensive Trades ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Smoke Nuisances ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other Nuisances	50	50	50	10	41	4
	TOTALS ...	6300	1753	1753	756	1003	400

* 230 Water Closets and Drains cleared by Council's Workmen.

UNWHOLESOME FOOD.

Number of Seizures	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Condemned by Magistrate	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Prosecutions for exposing for sale	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Convictions	„	„	...	...	...	...	0

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Samples taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number found adulterated, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Proceedings taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number of convictions	...	...	..	...	...	...	0
Samples of Water taken for analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ condemned as unfit for use	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding disinfected or destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	100
Houses disinfected after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	210
Schools	„	„	...	...	...	2
Prosecutions for not notifying existence of infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	0
Convictions	„	„	„	...	...	0
*Prosecutions for exposure of infected persons or things	...	...	...	...	...	0
Convictions	„	„	„	...	...	0

* In four cases of exposure the parents were summoned to appear before the Health Committee and were cautioned.

Signed, FREDK. H. W. LARGE,

Inspector of Nuisances.

January 19th, 1914.

SCHOOL SANITATION.

The sanitary condition of the Public Elementary Schools within this district is satisfactory. Slight alterations and improvements are constantly being effected as opportunity serves, and in every case the water supply is derived from the South Staffordshire Water Works Co.'s mains by "constant" service.

The interior of both departments of the Beeches Road Schools, and the Infants' Department of the Siviter's Lane Schools were re-painted during the past year, and supplementary means of ventilation were also provided by the fixing of "hopper panes" in the windows of some of the classrooms.

The Medical Officer of Health is also School Medical Officer, and in the latter capacity is assisted by two part-time Medical Inspectors, whose duties comprise the medical examination of the children and the supplying of the necessary statistics for the annual report.

A School Nurse (part-time) is also appointed to assist in the preparatory arrangements for inspection. She obtains and schedules particulars relating to previous illnesses and the family history of children to be inspected. Systematic visits are paid to all the schools, and particular attention is given to the "following up" of cases which have been excluded as a result of medical inspection.

Certificates are sent to the head teachers by the Health Department in all cases of infectious disease, should the patient be of school age, or where school children reside in the infected house. Upon recovery, and after the premises have been disinfected, "free notices" are issued allowing re-admission to school.

Weekly returns, on forms supplied, are forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health from each school, showing the number of absentees caused by the prevalence of all infectious cases.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Under the Regulations which apply to these premises, sixty-nine persons are registered, viz. :—Twenty-five Cowkeepers and forty-four Purveyors of Milk.

One old cowshed was closed and demolished during the course of the year, and two new sheds were erected. There are, however, still a number of unsuitable cowsheds in the District which in my opinion can never be altered to meet modern requirements, unless taken down and reconstructed.

The approximate number of milch cows kept in this District at present is 246, and they are turned out to graze during the greater portion of the year. On several occasions the attention of Cowkeepers has had to be called to the filthy state of the cows' udders, and I would suggest that the bye-laws should now be revised and brought up to date, so that such matters could be dealt with more efficiently.

In one instance, I found it necessary to call in a Veterinary Surgeon to examine the herd of cattle belonging to a registered cowkeeper, owing to the seizure of some tuberculous meat by the Sanitary Inspector from a slaughter-house within the District. The Veterinary Surgeon reported two of the animals as suffering from Tuberculosis, and another two as suspicious. A copy of this report was forwarded to the Staffordshire County Council, who administer the Contagious Diseases Animals Act, with the result that the two animals affected have since, I learn, been slaughtered at a Knacker's Yard.

No samples of milk have been taken for bacteriological purposes, except those required by the Veterinary Inspector in connection with the four cows above referred to. Samples for chemical analysis are collected by the Food and Drugs Inspectors appointed under the County Authority.

FOOD INSPECTION.

The following quantity of unsound food has been intercepted and destroyed during the course of the year, viz :—

BEEF.—Two whole carcasses, two forequarters (240-lbs. weight), Tuberculosis; One whole carcase, Septicæmia; 70-lbs. weight, Inflammatory Condition; Considerable quantity of offal.

MUTTON.—One carcase, Jaundice and Dropsy; 50-lbs. mutton, Bruised; 14 livers, Unsound and Diseased.

PORK.—Two pigs' heads and three livers, Tuberculosis; 28-lbs. pork, Unsound.

FISH.—One barrel of oysters, Decomposition.

A careful supervision of all food supplies has been maintained, and in no case was it found necessary to institute proceedings in relation to unsound food. The Slaughter-houses are regularly visited by the Sanitary Inspector, and generally speaking, they are in a good structural condition.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are at present one hundred and twenty-three Bake-houses on the Register, many of which are in connection with dwelling-houses and do only a small retail trade.

Eighty visits were paid to these premises by the Sanitary Inspector during the past year, and five notices were served to remedy insanitary conditions.

HOUSING.

A sanitary survey has been made of a further 285 houses during the past year, and the results scheduled in accordance with the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.

Forty houses were represented to the Health Committee as being unfit for human habitation, and in thirty-five of these cases Closing Orders were made by the Council.

Notices for repairs were served in respect to 265 houses, and of these 221 were complied with at the close of the year.

A detailed account of all work done under the Housing Acts will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector, together with a schedule showing the situation of the houses Closed and Demolished. (See page 72.)

The operations under the Housing Act have, during the past year, been fraught with considerable difficulty, due to a dearth of suitable houses for the dispossessed tenants where Closing Orders have been enforced, and further, the number of new houses erected have been inadequate, owing probably to the great improvement in the trade of the District.

Many of the houses dealt with were of an obsolete type and generally dilapidated, the means of ventilation being markedly inadequate and the absence of damp courses almost a general condition. There are, undoubtedly, houses in the District which would be better Closed and Demolished, but owing to the shortage of housing accommodation, specifications for repairs and alterations have been served on the owners, giving them an opportunity to render the said houses habitable.

Nineteen houses for which Closing Orders were in force were rendered fit for habitation and the Orders determined. In some cases, this necessitated the conversion of back-to-back houses into larger dwellings, with through means of ventilation, thus again reducing the number.

Demolition Orders were served in respect to twenty-two properties, but at the close of the year only two had been complied with, and forty-four notices for repairs also remained outstanding.

The number of cases of overcrowding discovered were more numerous than those of the previous year, viz :—Twenty-nine against nineteen, which is no doubt in some measure due to lack of accommodation and the poverty of the particular class of people to whom overcrowding seems habitual. It is also possibly augmented by large families, because the general type of older houses in this District contain only two sleeping apartments.

Fifty-five new houses were erected during the year, showing an increase of twenty-six over 1912. About fifty per cent. of these could be classed as Artisans' Dwellings, although I hardly think this proportion can be called adequate to meet the needs of the increasing population.

New houses in course of erection are supervised by the Surveyor's Department.

WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES, &c.

Systematic inspections have been made of these premises by the staff of the Health Department, and I give below a tabulated statement of work done during the year under the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, as supplied by the Sanitary Inspector.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1913, for the Urban District of Rowley Regis,
on the administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, in connection with

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION—[Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.]

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	44	6	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	1759	34	1
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	9	6	—
TOTAL	1812	46	1

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	570	413	0	1
Want of Ventilation	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding	0	0	0	0
Want of Drainage of floors	0	0	0	0
Other Nuisances	21	18	0	0
Sanitary Accommodation {insufficient	5	5	0	0
unsuitable or defective	8	8	0	0
(not separate for sexes	1	1	0	0
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal Occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	0	0	0	0
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	5	5	0	0
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	610	450	0	1

3.—**HOMEWORK.**—Outworkers' Lists, Section 107.

Nature of Work	Lists received from Employers					
	Sending twice in the year			Sending once in the year		
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists	Outworkers	
		Contractors	Workmen		Contractors	Workmen
Wearing Apparel—Making, &c. ...	2	—	7	1	—	2
Cables and Chains, Anchors and Grapnels ...	24	36	1079	8	30	175
Cart Gear ...	4	4	47	3	1	52
TOTAL ...	30	40	1133	12	31	229

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.			Number (2)
(1)			
{	Chain and Cart Gear Makers...	...	861
	Nailmakers	...	124
	Odd (Iron) Workers	...	47
	Rivet and Bolt Makers	...	81
	Hook and Staple Makers	...	93
	Wheelwrights	...	8
	Boot and Shoe Makers and Repairers	...	38
	Millinery and Dressmakers	...	28
	Tailoring	...	20
	Carpenters and Cabinet Makers	...	25
	Shipping Tackle Makers	...	5
	Shoeing and Blacksmiths	...	10
	Bakehouses	...	123
	Miscellaneous	...	32
Total Number of Workshops on Register			1495

NOTE.—There were at the close of the year about 600 void workshops in the district.

Important classes of workshops such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here.

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class (1)	Number (2)
Action taken in matters referred to H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts, (s. 5, 1901.)	16
	11
Other	1

Notified by H.M. Inspector ...
Reports (of action taken) sent
to H.M. Inspector ...

(Signed) J. G. BEASLEY, Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

The staff of the Health Department, in addition to the Medical Officer of Health, consists of one certified Inspector of Nuisances, who also holds a Meat Certificate; one Assistant Inspector of Nuisances (uncertificated); one Drainage Inspector (uncertificated) also employed part-time under the Surveyor; one Health Visitor (hospital trained), and a Clerk.

The duties of the Inspector of Nuisances include the supervision of work done for the abatement of nuisances in the District; the investigation of complaints; Inspection of Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops, Canal Boats, Slaughter-houses, Workshops, Workplaces, Carbide of Calcium and Petroleum Stores; enquiries into all cases of Infectious Disease notified; removal of patients to the Isolation Hospital; Disinfection of Premises; the supervision of Nightsoil Removal; House-to-house Inspection under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations; and Inspection of the Food Supply.

The Drainage Inspector supervises the laying of drains to all new houses, the reconstruction of old drains, and the conversion of privy middens into water closets, &c.

The Health Visitor is also engaged as School Nurse under the direction of the Education Committee and School Medical Inspectors. Her duties include visits to the schools and homes of the children who have been excluded; inspection of verminous and dirty children and the "following up" of all cases where defects were found at the Medical Inspection.

HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION.

The only Hospital accommodation in the District is the Isolation Hospital at Tividale. It is available only for cases of Enteric Fever, and will accommodate eighteen patients. There are three Wards, and an Administrative Block adjoining. One patient was admitted to this Hospital during the past year.

Insured Tubercular patients can now be accommodated at the South Staffordshire Joint Small Pox Board's Hospital at Bradley, which has been converted into a Sanatorium, but no provision has so far been made for the treatment of non-insured persons, except by the Board of Guardians (Dudley Union) for poor law cases.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

The following Adoptive Acts and Regulations are in force in the Urban District of Rowley Regis :—

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (parts 1, 2, 3 and 5).

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders (Regulations established under this Order, March, 1889).

Supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin Serum (Local Government Board Order, 1910) for Curative and Prophylactic purposes.

Extension of the provisions of the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, to include Poliomyelitis and Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

The Notification of Births Act, 1907, to come into operation at the commencement of the next financial year.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Through arrangements made by the County Council with the Birmingham University, a free Bacteriological examination is made of the secretions from suspected cases of Diphtheria, Enteric Fever and Tuberculosis. All necessary appliances are to be obtained from the Council Offices or my residence.

The following table shows the number of specimens sent during the past year :—

Specimens Sent	Suspected Disease	Result of Examination	
		Positive	Negative
37	Diphtheria ...	9	28
2	Enteric Fever ...	0	2
88	Tuberculosis ...	9	79
127	TOTALS ...	18	109

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Three hundred and fifty-seven cases of the Notifiable Infectious Diseases were received by me during the year. This number shows an increase of one hundred and thirty-six over those for the previous year, but this is largely due to the inclusion of Tuberculosis other than Pulmonary, of which there were sixty-five cases. There is also a large increase in the number of Scarlet Fever cases, viz :—170 as against 100 for 1912.

An epidemic of this disease has been prevalent in the City of Birmingham for the greater part of the year, and probably infection may have been carried by workpeople who travel to and fro daily from this District, for a number of the cases reported were of girls employed in Birmingham factories.

Diphtheria, too, shows an increase of twenty cases over those for the previous year, and here, again, “contact” with infected persons has probably been the cause, for no evidence of either a contaminated food or milk supply could be discovered in connection with any of the cases. Most of the cases were of a sporadic nature.

The administrative action taken in this District with regard to cases of Infectious Diseases is as follows :—All cases are visited as soon as practicable after the receipt of a notification, and enquiries made as to the probable source of infection. The sanitary condition of the house is investigated and a free supply of disinfectants provided.

Instructions are given regarding the isolation of the patient and a Circular is left at the premises, advising what precautions are necessary to prevent the spread of infection. Where school children reside in the house, “ Exclusion Notices ” are forwarded to the Head Teacher of the School attended, and such children are not allowed to return until “ Free Notices ” have been issued from the Health Department. Infectious cases are also notified to the Librarian, and instructions given to him to destroy all Books returned from infected houses.

A complete summary of all the Notifications of Infectious Disease received during the past year, and their allocation to the respective Wards of the District is contained in the following Table :—

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1913.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ROWLEY REGIS.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases Notified								Total Cases Notified in each Locality					
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years							Tivendale	Rowley Regis	Black Heath	Old Hill	Cradley Heath	Total Cases Removed to Hospital
		Under 1	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—45	45—65	65 and upwards						
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	35		14	16	3	1		1	2	9	6	9	9	
Erysipelas	19	1	1	1	1	4	7	4	1	8	4	3	3	
Scarlet Fever	170		38	115	11	6			2	32	68	42	26	
Enteric Fever	5		1	1	1	2			2	1		1	1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	63	1		15	13	25	9		4	4	17	22	16	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	65	12	16	16	13	7		1	2	13	18	22	10	
Totals	357	14	70	164	42	45	16	6	13	67	113	99	65	1

Isolation Hospital at Tivendale for Enteric Fever cases only.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

The number of Diphtheria notifications received during the past year was thirty-five, and four deaths were registered from this disease.

Comparing the past ten years, the returns are as follows :—

			1913	1912	Average, 1904-1913
Number of Cases notified	...	...	35	15	23·7
Deaths registered	...	...	4	3	3·6

The above returns show a considerable increase in the number of cases reported, but fortunately the disease has, generally speaking, been of a mild type, which is verified by the death returns.

Of the four deaths, three occurred in the Old Hill Ward and one at Blackheath. The Old Hill cases were of children aged $1\frac{1}{2}$, $3\frac{1}{2}$ and 5 years respectively, and in only one instance could a contributory cause be discovered, viz :—The disturbance of soil by the recent conversion of a privy midden into a water closet. The death at Blackheath was again of a child aged $2\frac{1}{2}$ years, and in this case the house was in a dirty condition.

A number of “contact” cases were discovered, four being notified in one house. One of the patients was employed at a factory in Birmingham, and is said to have contracted the disease there and thus conveyed it to three other children in the house. In another instance, in the Cradley Heath Ward, the parents neglected to take the precautions advised, and consequently a second notification was received from that house. This matter was reported to the Health Committee and the parents censured for their carelessness. Another case was due to direct contact whilst taking a swab for bacteriological examination.

A number of insanitary conditions were found at the premises visited, and these included :—Offensive privy middens, untrapped urinal, foul soft water cisterns, and dampness.

At one infected house there lodged a man who was employed in the milk trade, and during the period of infection I advised he

should find accommodation elsewhere. His clothes were disinfected before removal, and I am pleased to report the methods adopted proved satisfactory.

The incidence of Diphtheria in the Wards of the District has been as follows:—

Quarters, 1913		Tividale	Rowley Regis	Black Heath	Old Hill	Cradley Heath	Totals
1st Quarter	Sickness	0	4	0	3	3	10
	Deaths	0	0	0	1	0	1
2nd Quarter	Sickness	1	0	0	3	3	7
	Deaths	0	0	0	1	0	1
3rd Quarter	Sickness	1	1	5	0	0	7
	Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0
4th Quarter	Sickness	0	4	1	3	3	11
	Deaths	0	0	1	1	0	2

ERYSIPELAS.

Nineteen cases notified and no deaths, as compared with sixteen cases and two deaths for the previous year.

				1913	1912	Average 1904-1913
Number of Cases notified	...	...	...	19	16	30·1
Deaths registered	...	...	...	0	2	1·1

These returns show an increase of three on the notifications, but no deaths were recorded. The majority of the cases reported were of Facial Erysipelas, their distribution has been as follows:—One at Tividale, 8 Rowley Regis, 4 Blackheath, 3 Old Hill and 3 at Cradley Heath.

SCARLET FEVER.

As previously mentioned, an epidemic of this disease has raged in the City of Birmingham for the greater part of the year under review, and as there is much intercommunication between this District and the city, it is probable that infection has in some measure been conveyed by that means. Our returns show a large increase upon those for the previous year, viz—170 notifications

and 5 deaths, as compared with 100 notifications and 3 deaths. The disease has been prevalent throughout the year, particularly in the Blackheath Ward.

				1913	1912	Average 1904-1913
Number of Cases notified	...	..		170	100	133·6
Deaths registered	...	...	...	5	3	5·8

The distribution of the cases throughout the several Wards of the District has been as follows :—

Quarters, 1913		Tividale	Rowley Regis	Black Heath	Old Hill	Cradley Heath	Totals
1st Quarter	Sickness	0	7	11	11	3	32
	Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0
2nd Quarter	Sickness	2	16	12	5	8	43
	Deaths	0	1	0	0	1	2
3rd Quarter	Sickness	0	4	22	12	6	44
	Deaths	0	0	2	0	0	2
4th Quarter	Sickness	0	5	23	14	9	51
	Deaths	0	0	0	0	1	1

Fortunately, the disease has been of a mild type, and in very few instances have there been complications. In this district, efficient home isolation can rarely be obtained, and consequently there have been quite a number of notifications affecting more than one person in the same house; for instance, five primary notifications resulted in fifteen further cases being reported from those five houses.

As a result of our investigations, we found at least ten cases had been imported from other districts. In one instance I had to arrange for the removal of a patient to the Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Isolation Hospital, as a pawnbroking business was conducted at the premises where the case occurred.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Five notifications of Enteric Fever were received during the year, and one death occurred from this disease. The whole of

the cases were sporadic, and no Widal's reaction was obtained in either instance.

The first case reported was that of a man aged 41 years, and resident at 124 High Street, Cradley Heath. The house was in fair sanitary condition, but there were no through means of ventilation, and as there were eight other occupants I decided to remove the patient to the Isolation Hospital at Tividale. No satisfactory source of infection could be ascertained. The patient made a good recovery and was discharged within a month from the date of admission.

The next cases notified were two children, aged 10 and 7 years respectively, who resided at a cottage in a field, remote from any other habitation. The children had been eating watercress and unripe fruit, other than that no history of infection could be obtained. Their father was employed as a milker, but I arranged for his occupation to be changed during the period of infection.

The drainage from this house ran into a field adjoining, and was partially obstructed; there was also a privy midden. These cases occurred in the Tividale Ward.

The fourth notification received, was of a woman aged 38 years, residing at 257 Halesowen Road, Old Hill. She was well housed and isolated, and the children removed; and as she had been an invalid for some considerable time prior to the attack, it was not considered advisable to remove her. No history of infection could be ascertained, and the sanitary condition of the premises was satisfactory. This patient died on September 30th, two months after being notified.

The last case reported was also of a woman, aged 23 years, and resident at Whiteheath in the Rowley Regis Ward. These premises were also in a satisfactory condition, and the patient well isolated. In this case, again, no history of infection was obtained.

The following table shows the returns of Enteric Fever cases for the past ten years :—

Year	Notifications	Deaths
1904	7	2
1905	7	3
1906	18	5
1907	27	4
1908	27	4
1909	14	5
1910	8	1
1911	5	2
1912	2	0
1913	5	1

Summary of Notifications and Deaths from Infectious Diseases from 1904 to 1913.

Infectious Diseases	Notifications												Deaths							
	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup	35	15	24	12	20	34	35	26	11	25	4	3	5	2	2	3	6	6	2	3
Erysipelas	19	16	21	35	32	22	40	40	32	44	0	2	2	1	0	0	3	2	0	1
Scarlet Fever	170	100	62	86	121	171	97	185	133	211	5	3	5	1	6	14	1	6	5	12
Enteric Fever	5	2	5	8	14	27	27	18	7	7	1	0	2	1	5	4	4	5	3	2
Puerperal Fever	0	3	0	4	5	0	3	3	1	5	0	2	0	2	1	0	2	2	0	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	63	85	35	10	16	+	+	+	+	+	32	33	29	18	21	25	34	24	24	21
Other Tubercular Diseases	65	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	20	16	10	18	21	20	14	15	18	8
TOTALS	357	221	147	155	208	254	202	272	184	294	62	59	53	43	56	66	64	60	52	50

INVESTIGATION OF OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

MEASLES.

Forty-five deaths from Measles have been recorded during the past year, as against none for 1912. The disease has been of a severe type, being in the majority of cases complicated with pulmonary affections

The epidemic commenced in the Old Hill Ward in the early part of the year, and rapidly spread to Cradley Heath. It then appeared in Tividale, and the infection became so acute that I recommended the closing of the Tividale Infants' Department on June 13th, for a period of three weeks. In the months of July and August the disease spread to the Blackheath and Rowley Regis Wards, and was so severe in the neighbourhood of Beeches Road School that on August 18th I advised the closure of the Infants' Department for three weeks. It then became prevalent in the neighbourhood of Blackheath, Siviter's Lane and The Knowle Schools, but as the September holidays were close at hand I refrained from advising any further action by the Education Committee, in the hope that the holidays would have a beneficial effect.

Fortunately, this proved to be the case, for when the Schools re-opened the epidemic had greatly diminished, and this improvement continued until the close of the year, when there were only eight known cases in the District from the School returns.

As a preventative measure in dealing with this disease, I have recommended that all infants from an infected house should be excluded from School until the period of infection has passed.

The following returns show the number of deaths that have occurred in each Ward of the District :—

Quarters, 1913		Tividale	Rowley Regis	Black Heath	Old Hill	Cradley Heath	Totals
1st Quarter ...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
2nd Quarter ...	...	0	0	2	10	0	12
3rd Quarter ...	...	3	5	5	2	6	21
4th Quarter ...	...	0	0	3	1	8	12

WHOOPIING COUGH.

No deaths from Whooping Cough were registered as against 16 for 1912.

According to the School Returns this disease has been responsible for the absence of a few children each month. As far as is known the cases have been sporadic, causing very little disorganisation.

CHICKEN POX.

This disease has also been responsible for a few School absentees throughout the year.

DIARRHŒA.

Eighteen deaths were registered during the year from Diarrhœa and Enteritis as against sixteen for the previous year. The majority of the deaths occurred in the third and fourth quarters, and ten were Infants under one year of age.

Their distribution is shown in the following table :—

Quarters, 1913		Tividale	Rowley Regis	Black Heath	Old Hill	Cradley Heath	Totals
1st Quarter ...	...	0	0	0	2	0	2
2nd Quarter ...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
3rd Quarter ...	...	1	2	0	2	5	10
4th Quarter ...	...	3	1	0	1	1	6
		—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals		4	3	0	5	6	18

Ages at Death :—

		Under 1 Year	1—2 Years	2—5 Years	65 and upwards	
Diarrhœa, all forms ...	...	10	3	3	2	18

In accordance with the Local Government Board's instructions, special visits were paid to the common courts and yards throughout the District, and leaflets, suggesting the necessary precautions to be taken to prevent the spread of this disease, were distributed through the agency of the Schools.

The removal of house and vegetable refuse received careful attention, and disinfectants were freely supplied where any case occurred.

INFLUENZA.

Only four deaths were recorded from this disease during the past year, as against eleven for 1912. Two occurred in the first quarter in the Old Hill Ward, and two in the last quarter at Tivdale.

Deaths from Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases, from Years 1904 to 1913.

Causes of Death	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Measles ...	27	17	16	14	0	33	2	26	0	45
Whooping Cough	26	14	24	8	14	17	23	2	16	0
Diarrhoea ...	25	27	28	13	11	9	5	35	16	18
Influenza ..	1	3	4	3	7	6	2	1	11	4
TOTAL	79	61	72	38	32	65	32	64	43	67

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER TUBERCULOSIS.

During the past year 74 fresh notifications relating to 63 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis have been received, together with 65 notifications of other forms of this disease, thus making a total of 128 cases reported. There have been 32 deaths registered from Phthisis and 20 from other forms of Tuberculosis; three of the former and five of the latter had not been notified to this Authority. The following tables show the ages of the persons notified and their distribution throughout the district :—

Phthisical Notifications received during 1913.

Quarters, 1913		All Ages	5-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-45 Years	45-65 Years	65 Years and upwards	Tivdale	Rowley Regis	Black Heath	Old Hill	Cradley Heath
1st Quarter	...	14	3	2	8	1	0	1	0	5	5	3
2nd Quarter	...	25	9	6	7	3	0	2	2	7	8	6
3rd Quarter	...	10	1	2	7	0	0	1	1	1	5	2
4th Quarter	..	14	3	3	3	5	0	0	1	4	4	5
Totals	...	63	16	13	25	9	0	4	4	17	22	16

Tubercular Notifications (other than Pulmonary) received during the Year 1913.

Quarters 1913	All ages	0-1 year	1-5 years	5-15 years	15-25 years	25-45 years	45-65 years	65 years and upwards	Tivdale	Rowley Regis	Black Heath	Old Hill	Cradley Heath
1st Quarter	24	2	6	4	8	3	0	1	1	8	5	6	4
2nd Quarter	22	3	6	9	3	1	0	0	1	3	5	9	4
3rd Quarter	9	3	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	1	4	3	1
4th Quarter	10	4	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	4	4	1
TOTALS ...	65	12	16	16	13	7	0	1	2	13	18	22	10

Upon receipt of a notification the patient is visited by myself, and enquiries made as to the probable source of infection. Subsequent visits are also paid at intervals by the staff of the Health Department, and cards of instruction are distributed, giving advice as to the means to be adopted for preventing the spread of infection. In cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis sputum flasks are also provided, and in each case a supply of disinfectants is given.

After a removal or death the house is fumigated, infected rooms limewashed, and the bedding and clothing disinfected by superheated steam.

No means of treatment have yet been provided in this district, other than for insured and poor law cases. The former are now admitted to the Sanatorium at Bradley (recently South Staffordshire Joint Small Pox Board's Hospital), and the latter to the shelters at the Dudley Union's Workhouse. A number of persons avail themselves of the opportunities afforded for treatment at the Dudley Dispensary, mainly through the agency of charitable organisations, and in other cases treatment is carried out under the direction of the medical man in attendance.

At the close of the year 145 cases of Tuberculosis were resident in the district, and of this number 103 were Phthisical. There is a greater number of females than males amongst those under observation, both in regard to affections of the lungs and all other forms, except glandular. According to the returns, the highest percentage of cases notified are between the age groups of 5-15 years and 25-45 years, and the greatest number of deaths occur amongst phthisical patients between 25 and 45 years of age. Under the death returns it will also be seen that a rather high percentage of children between the ages of 0-5 years have been registered from Tubercular Meningitis and Abdominal Tubercular affections.

The following Tables show the number of deaths that have occurred during the year from Tuberculosis, and also a statement regarding the cases under observation :—

Deaths from Phthisis during 1913.

Quarters, 1913		All Ages	5-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-45 Years	45-65 Years	65 Years and upwards	Tivdale	Rowley Regis	Black Heath	Old Hill	Cradley Heath
1st Quarter	...	5	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	1	4	0
2nd Quarter	...	7	0	0	4	3	0	0	1	1	3	2
3rd Quarter	...	8	2	2	3	1	0	1	2	2	1	2
4th Quarter	...	12	1	2	5	3	1	0	1	3	4	4
Total	...	32	3	5	15	8	1	1	4	7	12	8

Deaths from Tuberculosis (Non-pulmonary) during 1913.

Quarters, 1913		All Ages	0-5 Years	5-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-45 Years	45-65 Years	65 Years and upwards	Tivdale	Rowley Regis	Black Heath	Old Hill	Cradley Heath
1st Quarter	...	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0
2nd Quarter	...	5	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2
3rd Quarter	..	5	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2
4th Quarter	...	7	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	1
Total	...	20	16	2	2	0	0	0	0	4	7	4	5

Classified Statement of Actual Cases in the District at the close of 1913.

Localisation of Disease	0-1 years		1-2 years		2-5 years		5-15 years		15-25 years		25-45 years		45-65 years		65 years and upwards		Tivi- dale		Rowley Regis		Black Heath		Old Hill		Cradley Heath		Totals	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Lungs ...	0	0	0	0	1	0	16	20	6	13	18	23	1	4	0	1	3	3	3	7	9	15	10	17	17	19	42	61
Glands ...	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	4	5	7
Bones and Joints ...	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	2	3	1	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	2	0	3	4	3	0	11	5
Larynx ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	
Abdominal ...	3	3	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	2	2	2	1	9	4
TOTALS ...	4	3	3	0	5	1	22	27	10	16	21	26	1	4	1	1	3	4	9	9	17	16	16	25	22	24	67	78

INVESTIGATION OF OTHER DISEASES. CANCER.

The number of deaths from Cancer registered during the past year have been thirty-one, as compared with twenty-six for the previous year. The death-rate from this disease appears to be on the increase, but I believe that applies generally to the whole country.

The following tables show the comparisons between the deaths from this disease and those registered from Phthisis for the past five years :—

NAME OF WARDS	Deaths from Phthisis					Deaths from Cancer				
	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Tividale	2	0	3	1	1	3	4	3	2	2
Rowley Regis	4	4	6	6	4	8	7	2	5	6
Black Heath	1	0	4	5	7	4	7	3	4	5
Old Hill	3	6	3	10	12	6	10	5	6	8
Cradley Heath	11	5	13	11	8	7	5	11	9	10
TOTAL	21	15	29	33	32	28	33	24	26	31

Year	Ages at Death from Phthisis						Ages at Death from Cancer					
	0-1 Year	1-5 Years	5-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-65 Years	65 Years and upwards	0-1 Year	1-5 Years	5-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-65 Years	65 Years and upwards
1909	0	2	1	4	14	0	0	0	0	0	19	9
1910	0	0	2	1	11	1	0	0	0	0	16	17
1911	2	1	2	10	14	0	0	0	0	0	14	10
1912	0	0	2	6	24	1	0	1	0	0	14	11
1913	0	1	2	5	23	1	0	0	0	0	19	12

BRONCHITIS AND PNEUMONIA.

The number of deaths recorded from Respiratory Diseases other than Phthisis during the year under review, have been forty-nine from Bronchitis, forty-one from Pneumonia (all forms), and four from other chest affections.

Eighteen of these deaths occurred in infants under one year of age, and thirty in persons of sixty-five years and upwards.

	1913	1912	Average 1904-1913
Number of deaths from Bronchitis ...	49	59	60
Number of deaths from Pneumonia ...	41	37	41

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths registered of Infants under one year of age during 1913 were one hundred and thirty-seven, the total being the same as for the previous year. This gives a Mortality rate of 116.1 per 1,000 Births, which shows an improvement on the rate for 1912 (120.91) owing to a slightly increased population.

The chief causes of death during the past year have been : 62 from Debility (including Premature Birth), 12 from Convulsions, 10 from Measles, 11 from Pneumonia, 10 from Diarrhœa and Enteritis, and 7 from Bronchitis.

The comparison in the Infantile Mortality rate for the past ten years has been as follows :—

1904	rate	163.2	per	1,000	Births.
1905	„	147.5	„	„	„
1906	„	142.26	„	„	„
1907	„	124.59	„	„	„
1908	„	110.03	„	„	„
1909	„	125.0	„	„	„
1910	„	131.63	„	„	„
1911	„	117.16	„	„	„
1912	„	120.91	„	„	„
1913	„	116.1	„	„	„
Ten years' average		<u>129.83</u>	,	„	„

It will therefore be seen that with the exception of 1908 last year's returns are the most favourable for the past decade.

Sixty of the deaths recorded were of Infants under one month, Prematurity being the cause of no less than fifty per cent. ; Convulsions and Debility contributed a further sixteen, and Congenital Malformations five.

According to the report of the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board on Infant and Child Mortality, this District is amongst the highest twenty-five of 241 Urban Areas for the following five grouped causes of death, viz :—Premature Birth, Congenital defects, Injury at Birth, Want of Breast Milk, &c., Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus. Possibly, as Dr. Newsholme suggests, the influence of industrial occupation of women may be responsible for the excess under this heading. Your Council considered this report towards the close of the year, and I am pleased to say have taken steps for the adoption of the Notification of Births Act and the appointment of an additional Health Visitor early in the current year. By these means it is hoped some further control may be beneficially exercised both over the Mothers and their Infants; particularly as regards feeding and care of health, both before and after birth.

The deaths from Diarrhœal diseases are again very favourable, viz :—Ten, as against ten for 1912 and twenty-three for 1911. The Bronchitis and Pneumonia death-rate also shows a distinct improvement, and with the exception of the group five diseases before referred to, the returns are very satisfactory.

The following table shows the nett deaths from stated causes of all Infants in age groups :—

TABLE IV.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ROWLEY REGIS.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

1913. Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes	{ Certified Uncertified	34 0	9 0	12 0	5 0	60 0	23 0	17 0	17 0	20 0	137 0
Measles	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	9	10
{ Tuberculous Meningitis	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
{ Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	1	6
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Convulsions	...	1	2	5	0	8	2	1	1	0	12
Bronchitis	...	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	1	7
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	3	11
{ Diarrhœa	...	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	3	7
{ Enteritis	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	3
Gastritis	...	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Suffocation, overlying	...	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Injury at Birth	...	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Atelectasis	...	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
{ Congenital Malformations	...	2	3	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
{ Premature Birth	...	24	2	3	1	30	3	0	0	0	33
{ Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	2	0	4	2	8	10	4	2	0	24
Other Causes	...	2	1	0	0	3	6	0	1	1	11
Totals	...	34	9	12	5	60	23	17	17	20	137

Nett Births in the year—legitimate, 1143; illegitimate, 37.

Nett Deaths in the year of—legitimate Infants, 131; illegitimate Infants, 6.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.
BIRTHS.

The number of Births registered during the year was 1,175, which, together with five transferable births received from the Registrar General, makes a total of 1,180.

They comprised 554 Boys and 626 Girls, an increase of 47 on the previous year.

Estimating the population at 37,558, this gives an annual Birth-rate of 31.41 as against 30.506 for 1912.

The following Table shows the number of Births registered in each Ward of the District during 1913.

1913	Tividale		Rowley Regis		Black Heath		Old Hill		Cradley Heath		Total		Quarterly Totals
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
January	3	1	6	13	8	10	15	17	11	20	43	61	291
February	1	3	11	9	8	6	11	17	7	11	38	46	
March	3	4	12	8	9	9	16	17	14	11	54	49	
April	1	1	5	6	10	10	14	16	16	14	46	47	
May	6	5	6	4	10	11	12	22	11	13	45	55	304
June	3	9	8	8	8	13	13	11	21	17	53	58	
July	6	5	12	9	11	5	14	17	11	11	54	47	
August	3	4	6	6	5	10	10	16	7	10	31	46	
September	4	4	6	16	4	7	13	20	9	21	36	68	282
October	4	4	10	6	9	14	16	15	20	14	59	53	
November	3	6	10	7	4	4	13	19	8	11	38	47	
December	7	3	4	4	16	6	13	17	16	15	56	45	298
TOTALS	44	49	96	96	102	105	160	204	151	168	553	622	1175

Births registered in District { Boys, 553
Girls, 622

Illegitimate Births { Boys, 17
Girls, 15

Transferable Births ... { Boys, 1
Girls, 4

Transferable Illegitimate Births { Boys, 1
Girls, 4

TOTAL ... 1180

TOTAL ... 37

DEATHS.

There were 486 Deaths registered as occurring in the District during the past year, five of which were of Non-Residents. Fifty-three transferable deaths of Residents who died outside the District were received from the Registrar-General, thus giving a corrected total of 534, and an annual Death-rate of 14.21.

With the factor 1.0209 supplied by the Registrar-General through the County Medical Officer of Health I have corrected the local Death-rate for age and sex constitution and find it to be 14.51, and

From the Principal Zymotic Diseases ...	.814
From Phthisis ... ..	.869
From Lungs	2.554
From Heart ... ..	.679
Infant Mortality	118.526

TABLE I.

SHEWING THE BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND RATE OF MORTALITY IN THE YEAR 1913.

Births	Deaths	Birth Rate	Annual Death-rate per 1000 from					Percentage of Deaths under one year to Births Registered	Percentage of Total Deaths to Deaths					
			All Causes	Principal Zymotic Diseases	Phthisis	Lungs	Heart		Of Infants under one year of age	Of Persons over 65 years of age	From notified Princip'l Zymotic Dise'ses	From Phthisis	From Lungs	From Heart
1180	534	31.41	14.21	.798	.852	2.502	.665	11.61	25.65	25.09	11.61	5.99	17.60	4.68

Total Deaths registered in the District	...	486
Deaths of Residents outside District	...	53
		<hr/> 539
Deaths of Non-Residents registered in District	...	5
		<hr/> 534
Corrected Total	...	

TABLE II.
SHEWING THE BIRTHS AND DEATHS FROM ALL AND CERTAIN SPECIAL
CAUSES IN EACH QUARTER OF 1913.

Quarters ending	Births	Deaths from all causes	DEATHS FROM				The Notified Zymotic Diseases.
			Phthisis	Diseases of Lungs	Heart Diseases		
March 31st	291	117	5	24	6	4	
June 30th	304	128	7	21	8	8	
September 30th	282	138	8	23	5	8	
December 31st	303	151	12	26	6	10	
TOTAL	1180	534	32	94	25	30*	

* Including Tuberculosis other than Pulmonary.

TABLE III.
SHEWING THE RATE OF MORTALITY IN THE DISTRICT IN EACH
QUARTER OF 1913

Quarters ending	Death Rate per 1000 per annum from all causes.	PERCENTAGE PER ANNUM OF TOTAL DEATHS TO DEATHS.			
		Of Infants under One Year of Age	Of Persons over 65 Years of Age	Of the Notified Zymotic Diseases	
March 31st	3.11	7.86	5.62	1.69	
June 30th	3.41	4.31	6.55	2.81	
September 30th	3.67	7.49	5.24	2.99	
December 31st	4.02	5.99	7.68	4.12	
TOTAL	14.21	25.65	25.09	11.61*	

* Including ALL cases of Tuberculosis.

TABLE IV.—SHEWING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS AT TWO GROUPS OF AGES FROM THE NOTIFIED ZYMOTIC DISEASES IN EACH QUARTER OF 1913.

Quarters ending	Notified Principal Zymotic Diseases.		Small Pox		Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria and Membranous Group		Puerperal Fever		Typhoid Fever		Erysipelas		Tuberculosis	
	Under 5 years	Over 5 years	Under 5 years	Over 5 years	Under 5 years	Over 5 years	Under 5 years	Over 5 years	Under 5 years	Over 5 years	Under 5 years	Over 5 years	Under 5 years	Over 5 years	Under 5 years	Over 5 years
March 31st ...	4	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5
June 30th ...	3	12	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	10
September 30th	6	10	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	5	8
December 31st	8	14	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	14
TOTAL ...	21	41	0	0	1	4	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	15	37

TABLE V.—SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE SHEWING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS AT TWO GROUPS OF AGES FROM THE ZYMOTIC DISEASES NOT INCLUDED IN TABLE IV.

Quarters ending	Measles		Whooping Cough		Diarrhoea		Influenza	
	Under 5 years	Over 5 years	Under 5 years	Over 5 years	Under 5 years	Over 5 years	Under 5 years	Over 5 years
March 31st ...	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
June 30th ..	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
September 30th	20	1	0	0	9	1	0	0
December 31st	12	0	0	0	5	1	0	2
TOTAL ...	44	1	0	0	16	2	0	4

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1913 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
URBAN DISTRICT OF ROWLEY REGIS.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	Births			Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
		Uncor-rected Number	Nett		Number	Rate	of Non-resid-ents regis-tered in the District	of Resi-dents not reg-istered in the District	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1000 Nett Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1908	38000	1236	1236	32·52	475	12·5	0	45	138	110·03	520	13·68
1909	38470	1168	1168	30·36	521	13·54	0	37	148	125·0	558	14·5
1910	38700	1132	1132	29·2	460	11·87	0	36	151	131·63	496	12·79
1911	37050	1079	1084	29·26	460	12·41	6	45	127	117·16	499	13·46
1912	37140	1130	1133	30·506	472	12·708	7	42	137	120·91	507	13·65
1913	37558	1175	1180	31·41	486	12·93	5	53	137	116·1	534	14·21

Area of District in Acres (land and inland water)—3828·148. Total population at all ages—37,000.
Number of inhabited houses—7,671. Average number of persons per house—4·8.

TABLE III.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ROWLEY REGIS.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1913.

Causes of Death				Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District								
				All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards
All causes { Certified 534				137	51	36	21	17	55	83	134	
Uncertified												
Enteric Fever 1									1			
Measles 45				10	22	12	1					
Scarlet Fever 5						1	3		1			
Diphtheria and Croup 4					1	2	1					
Influenza 4									1	2	1	
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) 32					1		2	5	15	8	1	
Tuberculosis Meningitis 9				1	3	2	2	1				
Other Tuberculous Diseases 11				6	3	1	1					
Cancer, malignant Disease .. 31									3	16	12	
Rheumatic Fever 2							2					
Organic Heart Disease 25							1	3	2	7	12	
Bronchitis 49				7		1	1		3	10	27	
Pneumonia (all forms) 41				11	10	6	1		3	7	3	
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs 4						2				1	1	
Diarrhœa and Enteritis 18				10	3	3					2	
Appendicitis and Typhlitis 1								1				
Alcoholism 1									1			
Nephritis and Bright's Disease 21				2	1	1			4	7	6	
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition 6									6			
Congenital Debility and Mal- formation, including Prem- ature Birth 64				62	1		1					
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide 25				4	1	4	2	1	3	4	6	
Suicide 5									2		3	
Other Defined Diseases 130				24	5	1	4	5	10	21	60	
TOTALS 534				137	51	36	21	17	55	83	134	

Analysis of Death Rate.

Deaths Registered	Groups of Ages		Rate per 1,000 Inhabitants	
137	Under 1 year of age	...	3·64 corrected	3·72
51	Between 1 and 2 years	...	1·36	1·39
36	„ 2 and 5	...	·96	·98
21	„ 5 and 15	...	·56	·57
17	„ 15 and 25	...	·45	·46
55	„ 25 and 45	...	1·46	1·49
83	„ 45 and 65	...	2·21	2·26
134	Over 65 years of age	...	3·57	3·64
<hr/> Total 534		Rate uncorrected	14·21	14·51

Vaccination Returns,

For the Year ending December 31st, 1913.

Total number of Births registered in District			1175
No. 1 District.	By Public Vaccinator	...	231
	By Private Practitioner	...	30
			<hr/> 261
No. 2 District.	By Public Vaccinator	...	171
	By Private Practitioner	...	156
			<hr/> 327
	Successfully Vaccinated	...	588
	Insusceptible of Vaccination	...	3
	Certificates of Exemption	...	179
	Dead (un-vaccinated)	...	78
	Postponement by Medical Certificate	...	1
	*Not Vaccinated	...	326
			<hr/> Total ...
			1175

*A number of these children are not of age, and therefore not liable at present to Vaccination.

L. B. ALLEN, Vaccination Officer.

Health Visitor's Report.

The following is a report of health visits paid during the past year in my capacity as Health Visitor :—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

- (a) Notifiable Diseases.—Scarlet Fever, 95; Diphtheria, 16; Erysipelas, 3; Typhoid, 3. Un-notified Diseases.—Measles, 300; Chicken Pox, 30; Whooping Cough, 24; Mumps, 5.
- (b) Owing to my time having to be spent in School Work as well as Health Visiting, I have not been able to visit all the Notifiable Diseases which have occurred in the district, but these same have been under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.
- (c) Ninety-five return visits have been paid to the Un-notified Diseases. In the course of my visiting I found many children suffering from Measles who were not of School age, and therefore had not been notified to me through the Schools.

TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

- (d) These consist of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Phthisis), Tuberculosis of the Joints, Glandular and other forms.
- (e) Several deaths have occurred during the year which will be recorded further on.
- (f) Most of the cases have been visited quarterly with the exception of those who are under supervision from another source.
- (g) Several cases have received Sanatorium treatment during the year.
- (h) Several patients have left the district, and of those on the books at the present time the majority are improved in condition, and not receiving direct medical attention.

- (i) The following table shows the number of Tuberculosis cases visited during the last quarter of the year 1913 :—

		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Osseous Tuberculosis		Glands and other forms
Cradley Heath	...	37	...	1	...	6
Old Hill	...	19	...	6	...	8
Rowley Regis	...	11	..	4	...	3
Black Heath	...	20	..	5	...	7
Tividale	...	6	...	0	.	1
		<hr/> 93		<hr/> 16		<hr/> 25

(Signed) G. M. JONES,
Health Visitor.

A great deal of benefit has been derived from the work done by the Health Visitor, especially in connection with the epidemic of Measles which was prevalent during the year. Her advice upon the treatment of minor ailments has also been much appreciated, and generally speaking her visits are well received.

The greater portion of her time is occupied by her duties as School Nurse, and consequently the duties of Health Visiting are much curtailed. This condition will be remedied in the very near future, as the Council intend to appoint a second nurse owing to the extra duties caused by the adoption of the Notification of Births Act and the compulsory Notification of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

In conclusion, I wish to acknowledge the support of the Health Committee and Council Officials accorded me during the past year, and to express my high appreciation of the services of Mr. Large for the valuable aid afforded me in compiling this report.

I include reports from the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, showing particulars of the year's work in their respective departments.

I have the honour to remain,

Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

J. G. BEASLEY,

Medical Officer of Health to the Rowley Regis
Urban District Council.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
ROWLEY REGIS.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year ended December 31st, 1913.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you my 6th Annual Report and Summary of work done in the Health Department during the year 1913, and would point out that, although a greater amount of time has been occupied in dealing with the increased number of Infectious Cases, a steady rate of progress has been maintained in the sanitary improvements effected throughout the District.

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

Table I. in the appended Summary shows that 1,220 Nuisances and Insanitary Conditions were reported during the year, which, together with the 184 carried over from 1912, makes a total of 1,404. Of these, 1,156 have been satisfactorily dealt with and 248 still remained on the books at the close of the year. This increased figure is due in some measure to a number of Statutory notices being held back by order of the Council, pending the completion of the new sewerage schemes at Tibbett's Gardens, Cradley Heath, and Spring Meadow, Old Hill, but early attention will be given to these matters in the course of the current year.

Table II. shows the alterations made and new structures provided in compliance with notices served, and in comparison with the report for the previous year, an increased number have been effected. It will be seen that 202 houses have been repaired, and in 40 cases sufficient means of ventilation were also provided. The interiors of 310 houses have been cleansed and limewashed or re-papered, in 74 cases the floors were repaired or relayed, and

58 pantries have been ventilated. Much of this work has resulted from the systematic inspections made under the Housing Act, 1909, and also from the special visits paid to cases of Infectious Disease.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

Detailed examinations have been made of a further 287 houses during the past year, the inspections being carried out in the most insanitary portions of each Ward. This has caused a considerable amount of work to accumulate, as by far the larger number of the houses inspected were found to require a great deal of alteration or repairs, which necessitated many interviews with owners and builders besides an increased number of re-visits during the progress of such work.

In 265 instances notices were served to remedy defects, and of these 44 still remain outstanding. Forty Houses were represented to the Health Committee as being unfit for human habitation, and in each case a Housing Sub-committee made an inspection after receiving the Officers' report. Closing Orders were issued in respect of 35 of such houses by the Council's authority, and in the remaining cases, an opportunity was given to the owners to forthwith put their properties into a thorough state of repair.

In addition to the systematic inspections above recorded, 138 special examinations have been made either with Housing Committees or the County Council Inspector, respecting the work under this Act.

Nineteen Houses for which Closing Orders were in force have been rendered fit for habitation, and the Orders determined. In two instances this necessitated the abolition of eight back-to-back houses and their conversion into four larger dwellings with through means of ventilation.

Orders for the Demolition of 22 properties were served during the year, but at its close only two had been complied with.

Thirteen Houses have been closed voluntarily by owners and 24 demolished, particulars of which will be found in Table III., appended.

DRAINAGE AND PRIVY CONVERSION.

During the past year 2,770 yards of new drains have been laid for the improvement of existing houses, and 285 privy middens converted into proper and sufficient water closets. This brings the total number of such conversions up to 1,822 since my appointment as your Sanitary Inspector. In connection with this work a great deal of our time is necessarily occupied to ensure a strict compliance with the Council's drainage specification, but I feel sure the enhanced character of the work amply justifies the time involved. The drainage of Tibbett's Gardens (an hitherto undrained area) has now become possible since the completion of the sewerage scheme, undertaken by the Council during the past year, whereby it is hoped approximately another 70 houses will be properly connected to the Sewer.

Four Privies and 9 Ashpits were demolished and removed during the year; 11 additional Water Closets have been provided, and the number of Sanitary Dust Bins increased by 81.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Two hundred and twenty-nine notifications of Infectious Disease (excluding Tuberculosis) were visited and reported on during the past year, and a considerable number of subsequent visits paid to ascertain that all reasonable precautions were being adopted. As a result, four cases of exposure of infected persons were discovered and reported to the Health Committee, and the parents of the children were censured for their neglect.

Two hundred and ten Houses and two Schools were fumigated, and 100 lots of clothing and bedding disinfected by superheated steam, including 19 lots after fatal cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

INSPECTION OF SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND FOOD SUPPLY.

There are nine "Registered" and sixteen "Licensed" Slaughter-houses occupied within the District, and one "Licensed" Knacker's Yard, to which premises 637 visits have been paid during the year. All licences are renewed annually, and granted subject to the premises being maintained in good sanitary condition. During the past year one "Licensed" Slaughter-house has been demolished and removed, and one of the old "Registered" premises has remained unoccupied.

The following quantities of unsound food have been intercepted and destroyed, and in three cases only was it found necessary to obtain a Magistrates' Order :—

BEEF.—Two carcasses and all offals, Generalised Tuberculosis; two forequarters and offals, Localised Tuberculosis; 240-lbs. beef and all offals, Tubercular Peritonitis; one carcass and all offals, Septicæmia; 70-lbs. beef in an Inflammatory Condition; sixteen livers affected by Disease or Parasites; one kidney, Carcinoma.

MUTTON.—One carcass, Jaundice and Dropsy; 50-lbs. mutton, Badly Bruised; fourteen livers affected by Disease or Parasites.

PORK.—Two pigs' heads, Tuberculosis; three pigs' livers, Tuberculosis; 28-lbs. pork, Local Inflammation; two kidneys, Nephritis.

FISH.—One barrel of oysters (8 cwt.), Decomposition.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Four defrosted rabbits, Decomposition; 20-lbs. apples, Bruised and Decomposing.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are now on the Register 25 Cowkeepers and 44 Purveyors of Milk within this Council's area, and during the past

year 128 visits were paid to their premises. Fourteen of the Cowsheds were specially visited by the Chairman of the Health Committee and the Medical Officer of Health.

Two new Cowsheds were erected during the course of the year to replace old and dilapidated structures; one in Old Hill Ward to accommodate eight cows, and the other at Cradley Heath with accommodation for twelve cows.

As a result of the seizure of some Tuberculous Meat from a Slaughter-house within the district, the Council ordered a Veterinary examination to be made of the Herd of Cattle belonging to one of the Cowkeepers, when it was found that a further two of the animals were also suffering from the disease and were emaciated, and another two appeared doubtful. The report was forwarded to the Staffordshire County Council, who administer the Contagious Diseases Animals Acts within this area, and I have since been informed by the Cowkeeper that the two affected animals were slaughtered at a Knacker's Yard under the Tuberculosis Order, 1913, and the diagnosis in the doubtful cases had not been verified by the Tuberculin Test.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

A table dealing with the work done during the year under the Factory and Workshops Act will be found appended to this report, and a classified list of the trades carried on in this District is contained in the Home Office Schedule.

The occupier of one workshop was summoned for failing to comply with the Council's notice to Limewash. He was fined 10s and costs and ordered to carry out the work.

Eighteen Workshops have been repaired generally, and 413 were cleansed and limewashed.

SCAVENGING.

Fourteen thousand, six hundred and seventy-three Loads of Nightsoil and House Refuse were removed by the Contractors during the year and taken to the tips. This important branch of

work necessitates our constant attention, but I am pleased to report the Contractors have again given general satisfaction.

There can be no doubt the cost of removing Refuse from Privies is considerably greater than that of the removal of Dry Refuse; consequently the abolition of Privy Middens is not only beneficial from a health point of view, but a distinct gain financially, as will be seen from the following table :—

From 1906-1909 the cost of removal was £1,859 per year.

„	1909-1912	„	„	£1,669	„
„	1912-1913	„	„	£1,519	„
„	1913-1914 (March 31st)	„	„	£1,499	„

Therefore the total amount saved from April 1st, 1909, to the expiration of the present Contract on March 31st, 1914, has been £740.

In conclusion, I again acknowledge the valuable services of the Assistant Inspectors and Clerk in my Department, and have to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,

FREDK. H. W. LARGE

(Member Sanitary Inspectors' Association),
Sanitary Inspector.

Table showing Particulars of Visits made and Notices served during 1913.

House-to-house Inspections	287
Special Inspections under H. and T.P. Act	138
Number of Visits paid to Dwelling Houses <i>re</i> Sanitary Defects	244
Miscellaneous Inspections to Common Courts and includ- ing Repairs in hand to Dwelling Houses ...	2202
Cases of Infectious Disease visited and reported upon ...	229
Re-visits paid to Infectious and Tubercular Cases ...	1327
Visits paid to Slaughter Houses and Knacker's Yard...	637
„ Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops... ..	128
„ Bakehouses	80
Number of Visits to Factories and Workshops	1812
„ „ Outworkers' Premises	568
„ Re-visits under Factories and Workshops Act	699
„ Visits paid to Petroleum and Carbide Stores	41
„ Inspections made of Privies and Ashpits after Emptying	3214
„ Canal Boats inspected	94
„ Miscellaneous Inspections and Re-visits ...	3368
<hr/>	
Total (Inspections and Visits) ...	15068
<hr/>	

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Number of Preliminary Notices served	797
„ Statutory Notices served	422
„ Letters written to Owners	293
„ Cases outstanding	*204

* NOTE.—47 of these cases were held back by order of the Council pending new sewerage schemes.

HOUSING ACTS.

Number of Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	265
„ Cases still outstanding	...	...	...	44
„ Closing Orders served	...	...	...	35
„ Notices to Tenants	...	...	...	32

* Statutory Notices for Repairs were served under the
P.H.A. 1875.

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

Number of Notices served under the Canal Boats Acts	...	...	...	11
„ Letters sent	...	...	...	1

MISCELLANEOUS.

Number of Reports to Surveyor <i>re</i> Dangerous Buildings..	...	...	...	4
„ Reports to Surveyor <i>re</i> Buildings erected without Plans	...	...	...	2
„ Notices sent to Schools <i>re</i> Infectious Disease	...	...	...	319
„ Notices sent to Librarian <i>re</i> Infectious Disease	...	...	...	158

TABLE I.

NUMBER OF INFORMAL NOTICES GIVEN FOR
NUISANCES AND OTHER MATTERS.

To Whitewash and purify dwelling houses...	...	...	305
„ Repair dwelling houses	...	...	244
„ Cleanse and repair spouting	...	...	56
„ Repair the roofs of dwelling houses	...	...	103
„ Abate nuisances caused by overcrowding	...	...	29
„ Provide new spouting to dwelling houses	...	...	72
„ Provide means of ventilation in dwelling houses	...	...	40
„ Provide means of ventilation in pantries	...	...	32
„ Provide sufficient drains for effectual drainage	...	...	45
„ Remove accumulations of stagnant water from cellars	...	...	12
„ Provide a proper and sufficient water supply to dwelling houses	...	...	2

„ Limewash and cleanse workshops	578
„ Repair workshops	14
„ Provide sufficient closet accommodation at factories and workshops	5
„ Cleanse water closets at workshops	1
„ Repair and render sanitary closet accommodation at work places	4
„ Cleanse and limewash bakehouses	5
„ To fix sanitary earthenware sinks or tubes	102
„ Repair wash-houses	140
„ Remove accumulations of manure and refuse ...	22
„ Remove animals or poultry so kept as to be a nuisance	40
„ Drain stables	4
„ Demolish and remove foul urinals	1
„ Repair and render sanitary urinals	1
„ Provide and repair manure pits	5
„ Provide new cowsheds	2
„ Cleanse foul soft water cisterns... ..	3
„ Remedy defective drains, defective and dilapidated water closets, privies and ashpits	678
„ Repair defective flushing apparatus	38
„ Provide new water closet or dust bins	13
„ Pave or re-pave backyards	36
„ Trap lavatory waste pipes	1
„ Tenants to cleanse dirty houses... ..	5
„ Trap cellar drains	2
„ Provide covers to soft water cisterns	1
„ Surveyor—Alleged dangerous buildings	4
Buildings erected without plans	2
„ Cleanse ashpits	7164
„ Cleanse dust bins	66708
Total ...	76514

The Number of Nuisances remaining on Books 31/12/12	184
„ „ reported during the year ...	1220
Total ...	1404

The Number of Nuisances removed during the year	...	1156
„ „ remaining on Books 31/12/13		248

* 47 Of the cases remaining on Books were held back by order of the Council pending new sewerage schemes.

TABLE II.

ALTERATIONS MADE AND NEW STRUCTURES
PROVIDED IN COMPLIANCE WITH NOTICES
SERVED.

INTERIOR OF HOUSES

Houses repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	202
Houses ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	..	40
Partries ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	..	58
Dwelling houses cleansed and limewashed or repaired...							310
Back-to-back houses converted into houses with through means of ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of floors in dwelling houses repaired or relaved...							74

EXTERIOR OF HOUSES.

Roofs and spouting repaired	...	...	...	...	130
New spouting provided to dwelling houses			...	...	82
Dampness remedied in external walls		...	...	...	36

YARDS AND OUTBUILDINGS.

Sanitary earthenware sinks provided in wash-houses	...	106
Sink tubes fitted	... ..	106
Wash-houses repaired	... ..	120
New wash-houses provided	... ..	9
Wash-houses cleansed and limewashed	... ..	20
Yards paved or re-paved	... ..	47

PRIVIES, WATER CLOSETS, URINALS AND ASHPITS.

Number of Privies converted into water closets...	...	...	285
„ New water closets provided ...	...	...	11
„ Water closets repaired ...	...	...	76
„ New flushing cisterns fixed ...	...	...	4
„ Flushing apparatus repaired ...	...	...	48
„ New pedestal pans provided in water closets...			8
„ Ashpits repaired or re-built ...	...	...	20
„ Dust bins provided ...	...	...	81
„ Privies repaired or re-built ...	...	...	10
„ New urinals provided ...	...	...	1
„ Privies demolished and removed ...	...	...	4
„ Ashpits demolished and removed ...	...	...	9
„ Water closets cleared on notice ...	...	...	41
„ Water closets cleared by Council's workmen...			12
„ Slop water closets removed ...	...	...	1
„ Water closets demolished and removed ...	...	...	8

DRAINAGE.

Number of New Drains (yards in length)...	...	...	2770
„ Drain traps ...	...	...	8
„ Inspection chambers ...	...	...	164
„ Ventilating shafts ...	...	...	157
„ New connections to sewer ...	...	...	3
„ New inspection chamber covers provided ...	...	...	5
„ Drains cleared on notice ...	...	...	50
„ Drains cleared by Council's workmen ...	...	...	223

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Number of Factories and workshops where sufficient closet accommodation has been provided ...	...	...	5
„ Nuisances abated in workshops ...	...	...	33
„ Bakehouses limed on notice ...	...	...	14
„ Bakehouses repaired ...	...	...	1
„ Workshops limewashed ...	...	...	113
„ Workshops repaired ...	...	...	18

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Number of new cowsheds erected ...	...	...	...	2
„ Cowsheds limed on notice ...	...	...	...	18
„ Notices to remove accumulations of manure...				10

MISCELLANEOUS.

Number of Stables drained to sewer...	...	...	...	1
„ Pigsties drained to sewer ...	...	...	...	1
„ Manure pits repaired ...	...	...	...	3

WATER SUPPLY.

Number of houses connected with S.S.W.W. water ...				105
Total number of houses in the district supplied with S.S.W.W. water ...	...	...	...	7716

TABLE III.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &c., ACT, 1909.

Number of Houses inspected and records made...	...	287
„ Houses found defective for which notices were served ...	...	265
„ Houses represented as unfit for human habita- tion ...	...	40
„ Closing orders made by Local Authority ...		35
„ Determining orders made by Local Authority		19
„ Demolition orders made by Local Authority...		22

SITUATION OF HOUSES FOR WHICH CLOSING ORDERS WERE ISSUED DURING 1913.

Wards	Situation of Property	No. of Houses	Result of action taken
Cradley Heath	108 Reddal Hill Road	1	House partly demolished and being rebuilt
	119 Reddal Hill Road	1	To be repaired, specification submitted to Local Authority
	38-42 Foxoak Street	5	Closing orders now operative
Old Hill	16-17 Cox's Lane	2	Closing orders now operative (tenants not yet removed)
Black Heath	38 Birmingham Road	1	To be demolished by owner
	un-numbered house		
	Market Place	1	To be repaired
	36 Halesowen Street	1	Demolished voluntarily & new house erected on site
	49-52 Oldbury Road	4	Closing orders now operative (tenants at 49 and 52 not yet removed)
	Outbuildings rear of 107-108 Halesowen Street	1	Demolition order to be served
Rowley Regis	45 Dudley Road	1	To be demolished by owner
	17-17B Springfield Lane	2	To be repaired
	20-21 Whiteheath	2	Closing orders now operative (tenant at 21 not yet removed)
Tividale	101-104 Tipton Road	4	Reconstructed and renovated; converted from 4 back-to-back into 2 through houses
	116 and other un-numbered houses, Gilbert Street	6	Repaired and renovated throughout
	1-2 Grace Mary Colliery, Oakham	2	Closing orders now operative
	1 Cox's Rough	1	Closing order now operative
Total		35	

No. 70/74 Oldbury Road, Black Heath; 101/104 Tipton Road, Tividale; 50/54 Gilbert Street, and 116 and five houses un-numbered, Gilbert Street, Tividale, have been thoroughly repaired and rendered fit for habitation and the Closing Orders determined.

SITUATION OF HOUSES FOR WHICH DEMOLITION
ORDERS HAVE BEEN SERVED DURING 1913.

Ward	Description	No. of Houses
Cradley Heath	41-42 Lomey Town ...	2
	3, 4, 5 Lodgeforge Road ...	3
Old Hill	62-63 Station Road ...	2
Black Heath	109-110 Halesowen Street ...	2
Rowley Regis	39-40 Springfield Lane ...	2
Tividale	117-128 Gilbert Street ...	11
Total		22

SITUATION OF HOUSES CLOSED VOLUNTARILY BY
OWNERS

Ward	Situation	No. of Houses
Cradley Heath	27 Bannister Street ...	1
Old Hill	16-17 Priest Street ...	2
	29 Elbow Street ...	1
	39-43 Halesowen Road ...	5
Black Heath	113-114 Halesowen Street ...	2
	1 un-numbered ,, ,, ...	1
	9 Halesowen Street ...	1
Total		13

SITUATION OF HOUSES DEMOLISHED DURING 1913.

Ward	Situation	No. of Houses	Remarks
Old Hill	39-43 Halesowen Rd.	5	Demolished voluntarily in lieu of complying with Council's requirements
	16-17 Priest Street	2	Demolished voluntarily
	36-39 High Street	4	„ „
	14-18 King Street	5	„ „
	12-13 „ „	2	„ „
	36-37 Waggon Street	2	Owner gave undertaking to Council to demolish after service of closing order
Black Heath	36 Halesowen Street	1	Demolished voluntarily after service of closing order
	1 un-numbered house, Halesowen Street	1	Demolished voluntarily in lieu of complying with Council's requirements
Rowley	15-16 Perry's Lake	2	Demolished voluntarily
Regis	39-40 Springfield Lane	2	Demolished by order of Local Authority
Total ...		26	

TABLE IV.

RESULT OF NOTICES TO ABATE OVERCROWDING
IN DWELLING HOUSES.

Number of Informal notices given...	...	...	...	29
„ Statutory notices given ...	...	...	...	11
„ Notices complied with ...	...	...	...	24
„ Cases outstanding, 31/12/13 ...	...	...	...	5
„ Houses in which number of inmates were reduced ...	...	...	...	15
„ Houses vacated ...	...	...	...	10

TABLE V.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Number of Re-occupation of workshops notified by H.M.				
	Inspector of Factories	..	...	82
„	Occupied workshops on the register	...	...	1495
„	Complaint notes received from H.M. Inspector			16
„	Notices served relative to insanitary conditions			46
„	Inspections of factories...	...	...	44
„	Inspection of workshops...	...	...	1759
„	Visits paid to outworkers' premises	...	...	568

WORK CARRIED OUT IN COMPLIANCE WITH NOTICES.

Number of Workshops cleansed and limewashed...					413
„	Workshops repaired (roofs, spouting, &c.)	...			18
„	Factories and workshops where closet accom-				
	modation has been provided	...	...	...	5
„	Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	33

TABLE VI.

BAKEHOUSES.

Number of Wholesale bakehouses on the register...					16
„	Retail bakehouses on the register	...	...		107
„	Notices served relative to insanitary conditions				5
„	Inspections made during the year	...	...		80
„	Notices complied with	...	...	...	5

TABLE VII.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Number of Cowkeepers in the district	...	...	...	25
„ Purveyors of milk	...	...	...	44
„ Persons registered during the year	...	...	...	14
„ Persons who have given up the trade	...	...	...	3
„ Notices relative to insanitary conditions	...	...	...	30
„ New cowsheds erected	...	...	...	2
„ Old cowsheds closed and demolished	...	...	...	1
„ Milking cows kept	...	...	...	246
„ Inspections made during the year	...	...	...	128

TABLE VIII.

PETROLEUM AND CARBIDE OF CALCIUM.

Number of Petroleum stores on the register	...	...	...	11
„ Petroleum licences renewed	...	...	...	9
„ New licences granted	...	...	...	7
„ Carbide of calcium stores on the register	...	...	...	5
„ Carbide licences renewed	...	...	...	5
„ New licences granted	...	...	...	2
„ Inspections made during the year	...	...	...	41

TABLE IX.

PUBLIC MORTUARIES.

Number of Bodies received in Old Hill Mortuary during 1913	...	...	...	...	...	13
„ Post-mortem examinations held at Old Hill	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ Bodies received in Tividale Mortuary during 1913	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ Post-mortem examinations held at Tividale	...	...	...	...	...	1

TABLE X.

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

Act under which Proceed- ings were taken	Nature of Offence	Date of Hear- ing	Remarks
Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909	Tenant failing to give up possession of dwelling house closed by order of Local Authority. 114 Waterfall Lane, Black Heath	1913 Jan. 1st	Order made. Defendant to pay costs, 5/-
Factory and Work- shop Act, 1901	Failing to limewash workshop after notice by Local Authority. Rear of 111 Reddal Hill Rd., Cradley Heath	May 21st	Order made. Fined 10/- and 10/6 costs
Public Health Act, 1875	Failing to abate nuis- ances caused by overcrowding of dwelling house, 55 Beehive St., Cradley Heath	Dec. 10th	Order made to abate nuisance within seven days and payment of costs, 10/6

Rowley Regis Urban District Council.

NUMBER OF HOUSES TO WHICH THE S.S.W.W. Co.'s WATER HAS BEEN LAID DURING THE YEAR 1913.

January	...	...	...	7	August	...	...	...	4
February	...	...	...	2	September	...	...	...	8
March	...	...	...	7	October	...	...	...	6
April	...	...	...	10	November	...	...	...	4
May	...	...	...	27	December	...	...	...	2
June	...	...	...	12					
July	...	...	...	16	Total	...	...	...	105

Rowley Regis Urban District Council.

NEW KERBING AND CHANNELLING LAID DURING THE YEAR 1913.

FEBRUARY.

Yards.

- 53 Tipton Road, Tividale.
- 47 Birmingham and Oakham Road.

MAY.

- 40 The Causeway, Blackheath.
- 115 Dudley Road, Tividale.

JUNE.

- 50 Dudley Wood Road, Cradley Heath.

OCTOBER.

- 20 Halesowen Road, Old Hill.

NOVEMBER.

- 20 Dudley Road, Tividale.

Rowley Regis Urban District Council.

PIPES LAID DURING THE YEAR 1913.

FEBRUARY.

2½ yards of 15in. at Whiteheath, Rowley Regis.

APRIL.

20 yards of 12in. at Portway.

JUNE.

140 yards of 12in. at King Street, Old Hill.

140 „ 9in. „ „ „

JULY.

25 yards of 6in. at Macefield Schools, Old Hill.

AUGUST.

50 yards of 15in. at Clifton Street, Old Hill.

SEPTEMBER.

52 yards of 9in. at Ashtree Road, Old Hill.

OCTOBER.

20 yards of 6in at Mace Street, Old Hill.

856 „ 9in. at Tibbetts Garden, Cradley Heath.

1305½

Rowley Regis Urban District Council.

LIST OF DITCHES CLEANED DURING THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1913.

JANUARY.

175 yards at Dudley Road, Rowley Regis.

FEBRUARY.

181 yards at Barley Mow, Tividale.
152 ,, Birmingham Road, Rowley Regis.
324 ,, Peartree Street, Old Hill.
231 ,, Bearmore, Old Hill.

APRIL.

234 yards at Gorsty Hill, Blackheath.
948 ,, ,, ,,

MAY.

1661 yards at Birmingham Road, Rowley Regis.

AUGUST.

1453 yards at Oldbury Road, Blackheath.

SEPTEMBER.

321 yards at Hayseech, Old Hill.

OCTOBER.

416 yards at Mincing Lane, Rowley Regis.

NOVEMBER.

423 yards at Darbys Hill, Oakham.

6519

WILLIAM H. BRETTELL,

Surveyor.

March 11th, 1914.

